

FY 2002-2003 Tennessee Weighted Caseload Study Update



John G. Morgan
Comptroller of the Treasury
Office of Research
January 2004



STATE OF TENNESSEE

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY

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January 15, 2004

The Honorable John S. Wilder
Speaker of the Senate
The Honorable Jimmy Naifeh
Speaker of the House of Representatives
and
Members of the General Assembly
State Capitol
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Transmitted herewith is the 2002-03 Weighted Caseload Study Update, a special study prepared by the Office of Research as required by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-2-513. The study compiles and analyzes the filings, workload, and Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) for each judicial district and the state as a whole. It reports filings, workload, and subsequent need for FTEs by district. It also examines the non-compliance with case reporting and the need to collect complete information on the judicial functions of clerks and masters in certain districts where that information is not known. I hope you find this information helpful in your policy making process with regard to judicial resources.

Sincerely,

John G. Morgan
Comptroller of the Treasury

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FY 2002-2003 Tennessee Weighted Caseload Study Update



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January 2004**

Executive Summary

The 1997 appropriations bill passed by the General Assembly required the Comptroller's Office to conduct a judicial weighted caseload study to provide policy makers an objective means to determine the need for judicial resources. The Comptroller's Office contracted with the National Center for State Courts in 1998 to conduct a time study to determine the case weights now used to calculate workload and full time equivalents (FTEs) needed by each judicial district.¹ *Tennessee Code Annotated*, Section 16-2-513, requires the Comptroller of the Treasury to update the judicial weighted caseload study annually. The estimated number of FTEs needed is calculated by multiplying the total number of case filings by case weights (average minutes per case for each type of case) and dividing that number by the judge year.

The quantitative weighted caseload model approximates judicial workload and provides a foundation for policymakers to assess the need for judicial resources, but it has limitations. The state should consider other qualitative court-specific factors, in addition to workload, when assessing the need for judicial resources.²

The FY 2002 study did not include criminal filings for District 30 because the district did not comply with statutory case standards and reporting requirements. According to a memo from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), District 30 is now in compliance and was able to provide complete FY 2003 filings, and retroactively provide FY 2002 filings.³ Therefore, the 2003 study provides a complete update of the model for FY 2003 and FY 2002,⁴ in addition to all related tables and trend analyses.

As with previous studies, the majority of filings for fiscal year 2003 are civil.⁵ Civil cases make up 68 percent of all filings and criminal cases make up 32 percent. However, in FY 2003 total filings increased by 5,604, the majority of which were "criminal other" filings.

Corresponding with the increase in filings and workload in FY 2003, the need for judicial resources changed from an excess of 1.22 FTEs to a deficit of -3.32 FTEs. The greatest need for judicial resources (FTEs) continues to be in District 20 (Davidson County), which shows a deficit of -4.52 FTEs. Even with the increase in filings, all districts are still within one FTE needed, with the exception of Districts 9, 20, and 30. (See Exhibit 5.) The 103rd General Assembly passed legislation to create three additional judgeships in District 20 beginning with the 2004 fiscal year. Those judicial resources will be included in the 2004 weighted caseload study update.

AOC officials state that most courts have made great improvements in reporting, but some courts still do not comply with requirements. More action is needed to enforce reporting compliance.

¹ See Appendix A for complete explanation of the study methodology and formulas.

² See Appendix B for more complete explanation of qualitative issues cited from the original study.

³ See Appendix C.

⁴ See Appendices E and F.

⁵ Civil type cases include the case categories of civil, domestic, and probate cases; criminal type cases include the case categories of felonies, misdemeanors, and criminal other.

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Introduction and Background

The 1997 appropriations bill passed by the General Assembly required the Comptroller's Office to conduct a judicial weighted caseload study to provide policy makers an objective means to determine the need for judicial resources. The Comptroller's Office contracted with the National Center for State Courts in 1998 to conduct a time study to determine the case weights that are now used to calculate workload and full time equivalents (FTEs) needed by each judicial district.¹

Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-2-513, requires the Comptroller of the Treasury to update the judicial weighted caseload study annually to assess the workload and need for judicial resources, or Full Time Equivalents (FTEs). The estimated number of FTEs courts need is calculated by multiplying the total number of case filings by case weights (average minutes per case for each type of case) and dividing that number by the judge year.

The quantitative weighted caseload model can approximate judicial workload and the need for judicial resources, but it has limitations. The study provides qualitative information that affects the workload of judges such as the number of child support referees and clerks and masters. The state should always consider these and other court-specific factors when assessing the need for judicial resources.²

Last year's study did not include criminal filings for District 30 because the district did not comply with case standards and reporting requirements per *T.C.A.* 16-1-117(a) (5).³ According to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), District 30 is now in compliance and was able to provide complete FY 2003 filings, and retroactively provide FY 2002 filings. Therefore, the 2003 study includes a full update of the weighted caseload model for FY 2003 and FY 2002.

Analysis and Conclusions

Filings

The 2003 judicial weighted caseload study includes criminal filings from District 30. Over the last two years Shelby County's Information Technology Department, the Criminal Court Clerk's Office, and District Attorney's Office have addressed various problems to bring the district into compliance with case standards and reporting requirements. Shelby County officials and the AOC tested filing data and believe it to be accurate; however, they note that disposition data will require further work.⁴

Based on the AOC's memo,⁵ the Office of Research accepted filing data from District 30 for FY 03 and FY02, and updated each model accordingly,⁶ in addition to all related tables.

In 2003, non-criminal cases made up 68 percent of all filings; criminal cases made up 32 percent of all cases.⁷ (See Exhibit 1.)

¹ See Appendix A for complete explanation of the study methodology and formulas.

² See Appendix B for more complete explanation of qualitative issues from the original study.

³ See Appendix C for complete text of *T.C.A.* 16-1-117.

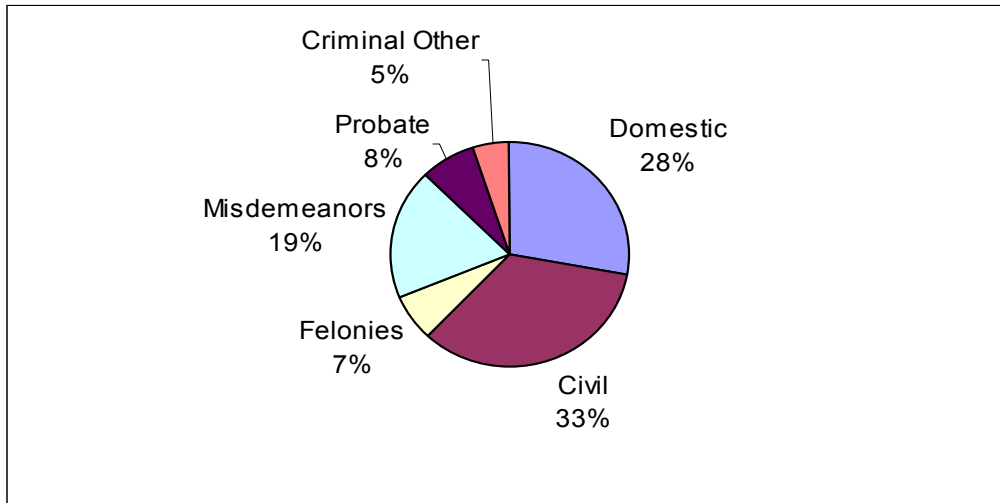
⁴ See Appendix D for Memo dated 10.17.03 from the Administrative Office of the Courts.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ See Appendices E and F respectively.

⁷ Non-criminal cases include the case categories of civil, domestic, and probate cases; criminal cases include the case categories of felonies, misdemeanors, and criminal other.

Exhibit 1



Source: Chart produced by Office of Research Staff with data from the AOC. Some numbers are not exact because of rounding.

The number of filings increased by 5,604 in the last year; the majority were criminal type filings. This is a sharp increase compared to previous years. (See Exhibit 2.)

Exhibit 2

Total State Filings by Case Type and Year					
Case Type	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	Change 02-03
Civil	52,598	52,445	52,842	54,240	1,398
Domestic	68,517	67,718	66,306	65,769	-537
Probate	13,208	13,940	12,888	12,869	-19
Felonies	32,311	32,243	35,134	36,310	1,176
Misdemeanors	13,578	13,800	13,244	14,727	1,483
Criminal Other	6,768	6,910	7,539	9,642	2,103
Totals	186,980	187,056	187,953	193,557	5,604

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

The number of civil cases has remained fairly constant, while domestic and probate cases have declined slightly. However, between FY 2000-2003, felonies and criminal other cases have increased. (See Exhibit 3.)

Exhibit 3

Total State Filings by Case Type and Year					Number and Percent Change in Case Filings by Year							
Case Type	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 00 to FY 01		FY 01 to FY 02		FY 02 to FY 03		FY 00 to FY 03	
					#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Civil	52,598	52,445	52,842	54,240	-153	-0.29%	397	0.76%	1,398	2.65%	1,642	3.12%
Domestic	68,517	67,718	66,306	65,769	-799	-1.17%	-1,412	-2.09%	-537	-0.81%	-2,748	-4.01%
Probate	13,208	13,940	12,888	12,869	732	5.54%	-1,052	-7.55%	-19	-0.15%	-339	-2.57%
Felonies	32,311	32,243	35,134	36,310	-68	-0.21%	2,891	8.97%	1,176	3.35%	3,999	12.38%
Misdemeanors	13,578	13,800	13,244	14,727	222	1.63%	-556	-4.03%	1,483	11.20%	1,149	8.46%
Criminal Other	6,768	6,910	7,539	9,642	142	2.10%	629	9.10%	2,103	27.89%	2,874	42.46%
Total	186,980	187,056	187,953	193,557	76	0.04%	897	0.48%	5,604	2.98%	6,577	3.52%

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff based on data provided by the AOC, 2003.

Exhibit 3 shows the total filings for each case type from all districts for each year between FY 2000-03 along with the change in number and percent for each year, and total change from FY 2000-03. (See Appendix G for spreadsheets with trends and ranking by total filings, and felony, misdemeanor, and criminal other filings for all districts for FY 2000-03.)

The largest increase in filings for FY 02-03 are “criminal other” followed by “misdemeanors” and “felonies.” The majority of all increases in filings come from Districts 20, 10, and 11.⁸ “Criminal other” cases are defined as “habeas corpus actions, extraditions motions, and motions in criminal cases filed between courts.”⁹ Most of the increase (4,828 of 9,642)¹⁰ was from District 20. An AOC official said that the large increase from District 20 occurred because that district was counting motions filed between courts that previously were not being counted.¹¹

Full Time Equivalents

Based on FY 2003 case filing data and workload, the state has a net deficit of -3.32 FTEs. (See Exhibit 4.)

Exhibit 4

Yearly Trend in Number of Judicial Resources (FTEs)				
State Net FTEs	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Total Judicial Resources (FTEs)	151	151	151	151
Total Judicial Resources Needed	147.74	148.1	149.78	154.32
Net (excess or deficit in Judicial Resources)	3.26	2.9	1.22	-3.32

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff based on data provided by the AOC, 2003.

Corresponding with the increase in filings and workload, the need for judicial resources has increased each year. The greatest need for judicial resources (FTEs) continues to be in District 20 (Davidson County.) The deficit of judicial resources in District 20 has increased over the last four

⁸ See Appendix H for a map of all judicial districts.

⁹ Karen A. Gottlieb, Ph.D., J.D., Frederick G. Miller, J.D, *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Model, Final Report*, May 1999, p.14.

¹⁰ See Appendix F, line 6.

¹¹ This was verified by Walt Draper, Chief Administrative Officer, Davidson County Clerk of the Criminal Court Office, 11.24.03.

years from -1.81 to -4.42. Even with the increase in filings, for fiscal year 2003, all districts are still within one FTE needed with the exception of Districts 9, 20, and 30. (See Exhibit 5.)

Exhibit 5

Difference Between Actual Number of Full Time Equivalents (FTE's) and Need for FTEs by District for FY 00 to FY 03				
Judicial Districts (Counties)	Year			
	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
District 1 (Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington)	0.91	1.08	0.63	0.21
District 2 (Sullivan)	0.45	0.41	0.17	-0.15
District 3 (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins)	0.05	0.01	-0.03	0.02
District 4 (Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier)	-0.08	-0.02	0.09	-0.27
District 5 (Blount)	-0.11	-0.22	-0.16	0.33
District 6 (Knox)	-1.04	-0.85	-0.47	-0.77
District 7 (Anderson)	-0.15	-0.29	-0.17	-0.25
District 8 (Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union)	-0.05	-0.09	-0.18	-0.24
District 9 (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane)	1.35	1.20	0.93	1.01
District 10 (Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk)	0.33	-0.02	0.08	-0.76
District 11 (Hamilton)	0.30	0.59	0.37	-0.07
District 12 (Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie)	-0.56	-0.39	-0.64	-0.91
District 13 (Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White)	1.19	0.31	0.84	0.53
District 14 (Coffee)	0.66	0.62	0.48	0.30
District 15 (Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson)	0.60	0.48	0.21	-0.15
District 16 (Cannon and Rutherford)	0.43	0.31	0.02	-0.03
District 17 (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore)	0.02	-0.07	-0.20	-0.30
District 18 (Sumner)	-0.26	-0.45	-0.46	-0.71
District 19 (Montgomery and Robertson)	0.04	0.04	0.05	-0.03
District 20 (Davidson)	-1.81	-2.42	-3.02	-4.52
District 21 (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson)	0.63	0.40	0.21	0.20
District 22 (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne)	-1.15	-0.39	-0.59	-0.92
District 23 (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart)	-0.21	-0.16	-0.41	-0.44
District 24 (Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry)	0.07	0.25	0.14	0.29
District 25 (Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton)	-0.08	0.12	-0.19	-0.06
District 26 (Chester, Henderson, and Madison)	0.28	0.37	0.38	0.38
District 27 (Obion and Weakley)	-0.06	-0.28	-0.17	-0.30
District 28 (Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood)	-0.11	-0.25	-0.20	-0.32
District 29 (Dyer and Lake)	0.37	0.31	0.33	0.35
District 30 (Shelby County)	1.49	2.77	3.64	4.56
District 31 (Van Buren and Warren)	-0.30	-0.47	-0.46	-0.31
Total Excess or Deficit FTEs	3.26	2.90	1.22	-3.32

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff based on data provided by the AOC, 2003.

Qualitative Issues

The 103rd General Assembly passed Public Chapter 55 to create three additional judgeships in District 20. This became effective in fiscal year 2004, thus those judicial resources will be included in the 2004 weighted caseload study update. Unless filings increase significantly, this will reduce the deficit of judicial resources in District 20 for FY 2003.

Some courts still do not comply with data reporting standards. AOC officials state that most courts have made “great improvements” in reporting, but Districts 5 and 10 still do not comply. Some counties in these districts still report each charge as a case. The AOC had to electronically compare dates and names to convert charges to cases for this year’s update. (See Appendix C.)

Recommendations

The General Assembly may wish to amend *T.C.A.* 16-1-117(a)(5) to penalize districts that do not comply with data reporting requirements by requiring them to reimburse the Department of Revenue their portion of the state litigation tax for the months of noncompliance. The AOC and the Comptroller’s Office have worked closely with several courts to educate and help them come into compliance with statutory case standards and reporting requirements over the last two years. Despite this, some counties still do not comply with reporting requirements per *T.C.A.* 16-1-117.

Currently under *T.C.A.* 16-1-117 the AOC can refuse to accept data from noncomplying counties and report them to the Judicial Council and the Senate and House Judiciary Committees, but this has not been effective in getting courts to comply with the law. The state needs a means to enforce the law after it has exhausted all other efforts.

The Administrative Office of the Courts should ensure that courts report “criminal other” case types accurately, especially in the districts that are not complying with case standards. The total number of “criminal other” case types has increased over 40 percent statewide in the last three years. (See Exhibit 3.)

The Administrative Office of the Courts should ensure that courts understand what filings qualify as “criminal other” and that they count cases rather than charges. Because of the unusually high increase in criminal filings, some of which correspond with courts not in compliance with reporting requirements, the AOC needs to take further action to verify the accuracy of the data. It is especially important for courts to know what types of cases are included in “criminal other.” The original study defines criminal other as “habeas corpus actions, extradition motions, and motions in criminal cases filed between courts.”¹²

¹² Karen A. Gottlieb, Ph.D., J.D., Frederick G. Miller, J.D, *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Model, Final Report*, May 1999, p.14.

APPENDIX A: Weighted Caseload Study Methodology

History and Methodology to Conduct the Time Study and Calculate Case Weights For the Original Judges' Weighted Caseload Study in 1998¹

History

In 1997, House Amendment 940 to the appropriations bill directed the Comptroller of the Treasury to conduct a study of the state judicial system. The Comptroller contracted with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) in May of 1998 to conduct a weighted caseload study.

The weighted caseload model requires a time study whereby judges track time spent on various case types during a specified time period. The NCSC consultants then used time study information with disposition data for the same time period to construct a “case weight” for each case type. The weights are designed to consider the varying levels of complex cases a court may experience.

For the judge, public defender, and district attorney studies, the state established a steering committee to assist and make decisions in conjunction with the three consultant groups. The steering committee was composed of the AOC Director, members of the judiciary from the 13th, 16th, 30th Districts, the Executive Director of the District Attorneys General Conference, District Attorneys General from the 2nd, 8th, and 20th Districts, the Executive Director of the District Public Defenders Conference, Public Defenders from the 5th, 24th, and 26th Districts, the Deputy Executive Director of the Tennessee Bar Association, a state representative, a state senator, and representatives from Lt. Gov. John Wilder's Office, Speaker Jimmy Naifeh's Office, and the Comptroller's Office.

Methodology

The study includes calculations of case weights, workload, judge year, adjusted judge year, full time equivalents, and case filings. Case types have to be established and a time study has to be conducted.

Case Types

The circuit, criminal, and chancery courts in Tennessee report 43 case types to the AOC. Together with the consultant groups, the steering committee collapsed the 43 case types into six to ensure enough data in each category to avoid sampling error and ensure valid conclusions. The consultants included enough case types to develop realistic and reasonable weights. The Steering Committee then grouped cases by similar type and complexity into the following categories²:

1. Civil (includes civil appeals)
2. Domestic
3. Probate
4. Felonies
5. Misdemeanors
6. Criminal Other (includes criminal appeals)

Categories of Case Events³

The steering committee also decided case events:

1. Pre-Trial Hearings/Motions
2. Bench Trial/Juvenile Adjudication
3. Jury Trial

¹ National Center for State Courts, *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Model, Final Report*, May, 1999. Original study and all subsequent updates can be found on the internet at <http://www.comptroller.state.tn.us/orea/reports/index.htm>.

² National Center for State Courts, *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Model Final Report*, May, 1999, p.14.

³ Ibid, p.15

4. Adjudication/Non-Trial Disposition Hearings
5. Post-Trial/Adjudication/Disposition Hearings
6. Case-Related Administration
7. Non-Case Administration
8. Travel

Disposition Count

The AOC provided disposition data for the study. Although courts may count filings and dispositions differently, based on a statistical analysis done by the AOC, courts disposed 98 percent of statewide criminal dispositions for FY 97-98 on the same day they were filed. Also, courts disposed 95 percent of statewide criminal dispositions for FY 97-98 on the date filed.⁴ Given this, all charges against one defendant for one incident were classified as one filing, thus one disposition.

Construction of Case Weights

A case weight represents the average number of minutes required to process each case type. The case weight does not include the time expended on non-case related work or travel time. These two categories are used, however, to calculate the judge year. The consultants constructed the case weights by taking the total number of minutes for each case type and then dividing by the number of dispositions for each case type. (See Exhibit 1.)

Exhibit 1

Case types	Case weights⁵
Civil	92
Domestic	46
Probate	71
Felonies	73
Misdemeanors	34
Criminal-Other	61

Source: National Center for State Courts, 1999.

For example, the average civil case takes approximately 92 minutes of judicial time; the average domestic case takes approximately 46 minutes.

The consultants also calculated case weights for the urban, rural, and transitional districts. From these weights, the consultants determined that it took longer to process civil, domestic, felony and misdemeanor cases in rural districts than in urban. The consultants opined that the higher volume of the urban districts allowed them to aggregate some procedures and process cases faster. They also found that urban districts are specialized into civil and criminal divisions that could permit them to process cases faster. Urban districts took longer to process probate cases, and the consultants suggested that urban districts' probate cases could be more complex.

Although larger courts may have faster average processing times for cases than smaller courts, the Final Report of the Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Model recommends, based on Guideline 9 in *Assessing the Need for Judges and Court Support Staff*, that a single set of case weights for judges within a state is preferable to multiple weights. However, one should evaluate differences in time requirements or case mix across courts of different sizes to determine if separate weights are needed.

⁴ Ibid, p. 17.

⁵ Case Weights as amended by NCSC Review in December 6, 2001.

Another way to deal with differences engendered by economies of scale is to adjust the workloads of the districts to correct for the differences and use a single case weight.⁶

Filings Count

The AOC provided the annual filings data for the original study, the NCSC review, and ongoing weighted caseload study updates. The consultants used the filings for the previous year to validate their model for the original study. They also substantiated the accuracy of the case weights by comparing the current filings count to existing judicial resources.⁷

Calculation of the Workload

Workload is defined as the number of minutes required for a judicial district to process its caseload annually. To calculate the workload, multiply the number of filings per case type by the corresponding case weight for that case type (See Table 1). For example, using FY 99-00 data for District 1, the workload is 346,146.

Table 1: How to Calculate Workload

Case Type	Case weights ⁸	District 1 FY 2000 Filings ⁹	Workload (in minutes)
	(average number of minutes per case)	(case filings)	(case weights x filings)
Civil	92	1,343	123,556
Domestic	46	2,455	112,930
Probate	71	235	16,685
Felonies	73	1,057	77,161
Misdemeanors	34	257	8,738
Criminal-Other	61	116	7,076
Total for District 1		5,463	346,146

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff from data provided by NCSC and the AOC.

Adjusted Workload

The consultants determined that the rural judicial districts had higher case weights than the statewide case weight “because of factors intrinsic to the size of the court.” The consultants subsequently increased the workload values by 15 percent for all rural judicial districts. Therefore, the adjusted workload is calculated by multiplying the workload by .15 and then adding that to the original workload.

Table 2: How to Calculate Adjusted Workload

Calculating Adjusted Workload in Minutes - Example District 3 FY 2000		
Original Workload (filings x case weights)	Rural Adjustment (workload x 15)	Adjusted Workload (workload + rural adjustment)
364,424	54,664	419,088

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff from data provided by NCSC and the AOC.

⁶V.E. Flango and B. J. Ostrom, *Assessing the Need for Judges and Court Support Staff*, National Center for State Courts, p. ix, 1996.

⁷ This was revalidated in the review conducted by the NCSC in 2001.

⁸ Based on revised case weights per the NCSC Review December 6, 2001.

⁹ Based on updated filings for FY 2000 provided by the AOC, 2001.

Judge Year Value

The judge year value is an estimate of the time an average judge has available to process his or her workload in a year. The steering committee, with input from NCSC, estimated that a judge had eight hours per day and 217 days a year. The eight hours *does not* include time for lunch, breaks, or other interruptions. However, the judge year value must be adjusted to account for travel time and non-case related work. The consultants determined travel times by calculating the average minutes of travel per judge day and then characterizing districts by the number of courthouses, resulting in the following three categories: high travel (5-7 courthouses), medium travel (2-4 courthouses), and low travel (1 courthouse). Non-case related work is time not available for processing cases and must also be subtracted from the judge year value.

Judicial Resource Count

The AOC provided information regarding the number of judges and judicial officers per district. Judicial resources include judges and chancellors.¹⁰ Clerks and Masters and Child Support Referees are included in the study as a *qualitative* measure.

Calculating Resource Needs/Full Time Equivalents

To determine the number of judicial resources needed or full time equivalents (FTEs) for a particular judicial district, the adjusted workload is divided by the adjusted judge year value. Using District 1 as an example:

Table 3: How to Calculate FTEs from Judge Year

Calculation of Judicial Resource Needs/FTEs Example for District 1 - FY 2000		
Adjusted Workload (in minutes)	Adjusted Judge Year (in minutes)	Judicial Resources Needed (Adjusted Workload ÷ Adjusted Judge Year)
346,146	84,692	4.09

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff from data provided by NCSC and the AOC.

Comparison of Actual and Needed Judicial Resources

To determine if a district has an excess or deficit of judicial resources, subtract the judicial resources needed from the actual judicial resources. For example, District 1 had five judicial resources (FTEs). The district needed only 4.08 FTEs. Five minus 4.08 equals .92. Thus, District 1 had .92 more FTE than its workload required.

Table 4: How to Calculate a Districts Need for FTEs

Calculation of FTE's Over or Under for District 1 (total resources – resources needed)	
Total Judicial Resources of District 1	5
Judicial Resources Needed	4.08
FTE's Over or Under	0.92

Source: Calculations by Office of Research staff from data provided by NCSC and the AOC.

¹⁰ Note: Child Support Referees are no longer included in the quantitative calculation of judicial resources as they were in the original study as a result of the 2001 NCSC Review.

The weighted caseload study model updates calculate each of these figures based on the current years total and district filings.

Appendix B: Qualitative Factors Affecting the Determination of Judicial Resources¹

Qualitative factors also can affect judicial resource needs. There can be legal *cultural* differences that result in some case types taking longer in some districts within a single state. For example, the practice styles of local attorneys often have a significant impact on case processing times. What might be considered an efficient presentation to a court in a larger city might be considered too rushed in a less pressured environment. The dynamics of local scheduling practices can also influence the interpretation of the model. In a smaller court, something as trivial as one defendant who fails to appear may waste a good part of a judge's morning if there is not other court business that can be dealt with while the judge is waiting.

Another qualitative factor to consider when interpreting the model is that the more rural areas may require additional FTEs than the model estimates to provide reasonable access to judicial services. Another qualitative factor that needs to be considered is the economies of scale that may affect the interpretation of the model. Usually in the more populated districts and larger urban courts there exists economy of scale effects that are reflected in faster processing times and the ability to process more cases in a judge year because these larger courts have the ability to work more efficiently. For example, a larger court can have a judicial division of labor that leads to specialization. This economy of scale effect is not that pronounced in the Tennessee model. There is not much difference in case processing times between the urban courts and the transitional courts. This is a different phenomenon than has been seen in other similar weighted caseload studies where the urban districts have a significant economy of scale, i.e., an ability to process a greater number of cases per judge.

While a weighted caseload model provides a baseline from which to establish the need for judges, no set of statistical criteria will be so complete that it encompasses all contingencies. In addition to the statistical information, individual characteristics of the courts must be examined before any changes to a court's judicial complement are recommended. The outline below describes a general procedure that can be undertaken if the weighted caseload estimates indicate a particular court is over- or underjudged.

1. Determine whether the judges and administrative staff of the particular court believe they need additional judicial resources through a systematic procedure to solicit local opinion. Input also should be sought from the state or local court administrator, members of the bar, and other local leaders. A procedure should be established to obtain local input in writing.
2. Examine caseload trends over time to determine whether caseloads are increasing, decreasing, or remaining steady. Attention also should be paid to whether the court has an unusual caseload mix.

¹ National Center for State Courts, *Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Model Final Report*, May 1999, pp. 28-29.

3. Review court organization to ensure that the court is structured and managed to make the most effective use of additional resources.

4. Explore options that will address concern over judicial workload without increasing the number of permanent, full-time judges. Options include (a) making greater use of judicial officers, (b) hiring retired judges on a part-time or contractual basis, (c) using alternative dispute resolution, and (d) simplifying the procedures for less complex cases.

5. Keep in mind that judicial productivity, and hence the need for new judges, also depends on the effectiveness of court staff and the available technology. Without the proper type and level of support, judges may be performing some tasks that could be delegated to qualified staff or perhaps new court technology could support more efficient administrative procedures (e.g., case screening, case clustering, and case tracking).

The weighted caseload approach provides an objective measure of the judicial resources needed to resolve cases effectively and efficiently. Like any model, it is most effective as a *guide* to workloads, not a rigid formula. The numbers need to be tempered by a qualitative assessment that must be an integral part of any judicial workload assessment.

Appendix C: T.C.A. 16-1-117

16-1-117. Reporting case statistics - Automated court information system.

Statute text

(a) It is the duty of the administrative office of the courts to collect, develop, and maintain uniform statistical information relative to court caseloads in Tennessee. To assist the administrative office of the courts in this duty, the clerks of each court shall report case data as set forth below:

(1) Each criminal case shall be assigned a unique docket number. A criminal case in a court of record, except juvenile court, shall be defined and reported as a single charge or set of charges arising out of a single incident involving the same victim or victims concerning a defendant in one (1) court proceeding. An incident shall be all criminal activity occurring within a twenty-four hour period. A court proceeding refers to a single level of court, (i.e., general sessions, circuit, appeals or Supreme Court). An appeal, probation revocation, or other post-judgment proceeding shall be considered a separate case. This definition shall not alter the practice in the Tennessee Rules of Criminal Procedure dealing with joinder and severance of criminal cases. Charges of a related nature shall be defined as charges against a single defendant that may have more than one (1) victim and that are similar such as, but not limited to: burglaries, drug offenses, or serial rape. Worthless check cases shall be defined and reported as all worthless checks filed by the same affiant against the same defendant within a twenty-four hour period with each check counted as a separate charge. District attorneys general shall treat multiple incidents as a single incident for purposes of this statute when the charges are of a related nature and it is the district attorney general's intention that all of the charges be handled in the same court proceeding. If a case has more than one charge or count, then the administrative office of the courts shall count the case according to the highest class of charge or count at the time of filing or disposition for the weighted caseload study based on the formula set out in § 16-2-513(a).

(2) A civil case shall be defined as all motions, petitions, claims, counterclaims, or proceedings between the parties resulting from the initial filing until the case is disposed. A unique docket number will be assigned to a civil case upon filing. Until said case is disposed, all subsequent motions, petitions, claims, counterclaims, or proceedings between the parties resulting from the initial filing will be handled under the assigned docket number and will not be assigned a new docket number. Once a civil case has been disposed and further actions occur on the case, the original case will be reopened using the same docket number under which it was originally filed and are subject to additional court costs. All subsequent motions, petitions, claims, counterclaims, or proceedings relating to the reopened case will be handled under the one reopened case docket number until disposed. Any subsequent re-openings will still use the original docket number but will be counted by administrative office of the courts as a new case for case-reporting purposes and are subject to additional court costs. Civil cases in courts of record shall be counted and reported to the administrative office of the courts according to this definition.

(3) Beginning July 1, 2003, or sooner if practicable, all general sessions courts and municipal courts with general sessions jurisdiction shall collect and provide court data to

the administrative office of the courts based on the definitions for criminal and civil cases as provided in subdivisions (a)(1) and (2).

(4) All courts of record except for juvenile courts, and all general sessions courts and municipal courts with general sessions jurisdiction shall report caseload data to the administrative office of the courts not less than one (1) time each month, so that all cases filed and disposed in one (1) month have been received by the administrative office of the courts by the fifteenth day of the following month in which the case is filed or disposed. The administrative office of the courts shall create forms to be used by each court in reporting the caseload data.

(5) The administrative office of the courts will provide written notification to any responsible party found not to be in compliance with reporting requirements. Written notification will detail the type of noncompliance and recommend the corrective action to be taken. If compliance is not achieved during the subsequent reporting period following notification, the administrative office of the courts will no longer accept data from the office not in compliance until such time as the errors are corrected. Notification of this action will be sent to all judges, district attorneys general, district public defenders, and court clerks within the district where the non-complying office is located. Notification will also be sent to the district attorneys general conference, the district public defender conference, the administrative office of the courts and the county officials association of Tennessee. Any periods of noncompliance will also be reported in the annual report to the judicial council and to the chairs of the house and senate judiciary committees.

(b) Any automated court information system being used or developed on or after July 1, 2003, including, but not limited to, the Tennessee court information system (TnCIS) being designed pursuant to § 16-3-803(h), shall ensure comparable data will be reported to the administrative office of the courts with respect to courts of record, and criminal cases in general sessions courts and municipal courts with general sessions jurisdiction, using the definitions and standards set forth in subsection (a). Each system shall use the Tennessee code citation on each criminal charge, and have the capability to use this information to classify the type and class of each charge.

(c) [Repealed effective May 29, 2007.] To assist court clerks in reporting the information required by this section and to encourage modernization and computerization of their offices, the revenue from the fee for data entry levied in § 8-21-401(e) shall be allocated by the clerk's county for computerization, information systems and electronic records management costs of the clerk's office, including, but not limited to, the purchase, upgrade, and maintenance costs of computer equipment, document imaging equipment, and related software and supplies; services, training and personnel costs related to computerization, information systems and electronic records management; and costs of telecommunications related to computerization, information systems and electronic records management. Such funds shall remain earmarked within the county general fund and shall be reserved for the purposes described in this subsection (c) at the end of each fiscal year. This subsection (c) directing the allocation of these revenues shall be repealed May 29, 2007.

History

[Acts 2001, ch. 408, § 4; 2002, ch. 791, §§ 2-4, 6.]

Annotations

Amendments. The 2002 amendment, in (a), substituted "data" for "statistics" in the last sentence in the introductory paragraph; in (a)(1), substituted "defined and reported" for "defined and counted" in the second sentence, redesignated the former third sentence as the present last sentence, substituted "shall be" for "is" in the present fifth sentence, substituted "defined and reported" for "defined and counted" in the present eighth sentence, and, in the present last sentence, substituted "then the administrative office of the courts shall count" for "the system shall be designed to count", and substituted "filing or disposition for the weighted caseload study based on the formula set out in § 16-2-513(a)" for "disposition" at the end; in (a)(2), inserted "by the administrative office of the courts" in the next to the last sentence; added (c); and made minor stylistic changes.

Effective Dates. Acts 2001, ch. 408, § 8. July 1, 2001. Acts 2002, ch. 791, § 7. May 29, 2002.

Section to Section References. This section is referred to in §§ 16-2-513, 38-6-118.

Rule Reference. This section is referred to in Rule 11, § II of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.

16-2-401, 16-2-402. [Repealed.]

**Appendix D: Memo from the Administrative Office of the Courts
Re: District 20 Filing Data for FY 2002 and FY 2003**



Administrative Office of the Courts

Nashville City Center, Suite 600
511 Union Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615 / 741-2687 or 800 / 448-7970
FAX 615 / 741-6285

CORNELIA A. CLARK
Director

ELIZABETH A. SYKES
Deputy Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Denise Denton

FROM: Walt Hampton

DATE: 10-17-2003

RE: Data for weighted caseload update



Denise,
I have sent you two files for the update. One is the information for the last study updated to include the Shelby County Criminal Data. The second is this past fiscal year's information including Shelby County Criminal.

The concerns that Shelby IT had expressed over the data related in large part to dispositions and not filings. They also had some concerns with how the clerks were entering data into the system. Upon review and discussion with them and the clerk's

office, it was decided that the data should be accurate enough on filings to use for the study and they went ahead and submitted the two missing years' filings.

In producing this year's data we wanted to do an evaluation between counting the cases by the old method and then by the new method according to the case definition. I ran the numbers through both methods and we compared the two looking at a 5% increase or decrease as a threshold to further review any of the districts. We had 5 districts that showed an increase in criminal cases greater than the 5%, Districts 2,4,5,10, and 20.

We examined the data from each of the counties in these districts to see if there were any problems with how their cases were being filed. In this review we identified that Blount County (District 5) and Bradley and McMinn County (District 10) had a significant number of cases filed with every charge as a case. We recounted these three counties using the older methodology. I will be addressing the problems in filings with these counties over the next few months to correct the problems.

You will also note that there was a sharp drop in the criminal filings in Shelby County between the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 fiscal years. We were initially concerned that there was some problem with the data, but after review with the clerk's office and IT group, we have found that they did have a decrease in indictments and cases processed. The data we were sent was reinforced by their internal review of grand jury processing, jails, and DA's records.

If you have any questions regarding the data, please give me a call. I will be doing the annual report on data collection for the Judicial Council in the next two weeks and will send you a copy once it is completed. My report this year will have more detail of the exchanges relating to the Shelby Criminal data.

Appendix E

FY 2001-2002 Updated Tennessee Weighted Caseload Model* Revised in 2003 Including Previously Unavailable Criminal Filings for District 30

			District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Row	Casetype	Case Weight	Case Filings per District									
1	Civil	92	1,348	1,020	1,504	1,575	666	4,865	761	972	848	1,380
2	Domestic	46	2,407	2,042	3,254	2,531	2,033	6,085	1,307	1,024	841	2,859
3	Probate	71	218	739	511	249	12	1,380	286	393	82	268
4	Felonies	73	1,293	782	537	681	257	1,281	141	651	301	928
5	Misdemeanor	34	386	116	121	184	73	663	190	319	172	238
6	Criminal Other	61	205	381	42	312	24	129	64	52	40	143
7	Total Filings		5,857	5,080	5,969	5,532	3,065	14,403	2,749	3,411	2,284	5,816
8	Workload		370,234	324,512	370,210	354,006	178,349	949,394	171,097	225,972	152,785	362,061
9	Rural Adjustment (+)				55,532	53,101	26,752		25,665	33,896	22,918	54,309
10	Adjusted Workload		370,234	324,512	425,742	407,107	205,101	949,394	196,762	259,868	175,703	416,370
11	Judge Year		104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160
12	Travel Adjustment (-)**		6,225	6,225	6,225	6,225	280	280	280	9,154	6,225	6,225
13	Non-Casework Adj. (-)		13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243
14	Adjusted Judge Yr.		84,692	84,692	84,692	84,692	90,637	90,637	90,637	81,763	84,692	84,692
15	Total # of Judges		5	4	5	4.9	2.1	10	2	3	3	5
16	Judicial Res. Needed		4.37	3.83	5.03	4.81	2.26	10.47	2.17	3.18	2.07	4.92
17	FTE Deficit or Excess		0.63	0.17	-0.03	0.09	-0.16	-0.47	-0.17	-0.18	0.93	0.08
18	Child Support Referee		No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
20	Category***		T	T	R	R	R	U	R	R	R	R
21	Civil Resources Needed		2.95	2.84	4.40	3.79	1.97	9.11	1.91	2.31	1.66	3.77
22	Criminal Resources Needed		1.42	1.00	0.62	1.02	0.29	1.37	0.26	0.87	0.41	1.15
*	Updated with 2001/2002 Judicial Resources, with 2001/2002 Filings, and 2001 Revised Case Weights. The quantitative weighted caseload model provides a foundation for assessing judicial needs. This quantitative model approximates the need for judicial recourses and other qualitative and court-specific factors should be considered when analyzing the need for judicial resources.											
**	Travel adjusted based on High (9,154) Medium (6225), and Low (280) average travel time.											
***	U = Urban (established economic center), T = Transitional (significant population gains and/or regional economic center), R = Rural.											

Appendix E

FY 2001-2002 Updated Tennessee Weighted Caseload Model*

[illegible]

		District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Casetype	Case Filings per District										
1	Civil	4,011	1,095	1,416	473	1,099	1,808	894	1,341	1,341	8,370	1,288
2	Domestic	3,677	2,444	1,083	727	1,621	2,996	1,984	2,012	2,290	4,671	2,229
3	Probate	1,005	228	209	138	137	32	374	437	437	2,033	464
4	Felonies	1,604	1,076	979	378	846	1,260	385	746	846	4,061	648
5	Misdemeanors	1,174	553	822	88	632	628	28	237	276	782	231
6	Criminal Other	250	48	21	43	11	38	111	73	57	2,970	200
7	Total Filings	11,721	5,444	4,530	1,847	4,346	6,762	3,776	4,846	5,247	22,887	5,060
8	Workload											
		781,767	329,630	295,625	119,965	269,318	422,074	235,894	313,920	334,358	1,633,460	321,332
9	Rural Adjustment (+)		49,445	44,344	17,995	40,398		35,384				
10	Adjusted Workload	781,767	379,075	339,969	137,960	309,716	422,074	271,278	313,920	334,358	1,633,460	321,332
11	Judge Year	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160
12	Travel Adjustment (-)**	280	9,154	9,154	280	9,154	6,225	6,225	280	6,225	280	6,225
13	Non-Case Work Adjustment (-)	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243
14	Adjusted Judge Year	90,637	81,763	81,763	90,637	81,763	84,692	84,692	90,637	84,692	90,637	84,692
15	# Judges	9	4	5	2	4	5	3	3	4	15	4
16	Judicial Resources Needed	8.63	4.64	4.16	1.52	3.79	4.98	3.20	3.46	3.95	18.02	3.79
17	FTE Deficit or Excess	0.37	-0.64	0.84	0.48	0.21	0.02	-0.20	-0.46	0.05	-3.02	0.21
18	Child Support Referee	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
20		Category***	U	R	R	R	R	T	R	T	T	U
21	Civil Resources Needed	6.72	3.23	2.74	1.10	2.61	3.62	2.72	2.72	3.07	12.46	3.00
22	Criminal Resources Needed	1.90	1.41	1.42	0.42	1.18	1.37	0.49	0.74	0.88	5.56	0.80

**	Travel adjusted based on High (9,154) Medium (6225), and Low (280) average travel time.
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*** U = Urban (established economic center), T = Transitional (significant population gains and/or regional economic center), R = Rural.

Appendix E

FY 2001-2002 Updated Tennessee Weighted Caseload Model*

Revised in 2003 Including Previously Unavailable Criminal Filings for District 30

		District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	Totals
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Casetype	Case Filings per District										
1	Civil	1,192	701	1,011	1,259	1,524	738	658	450	6,859	375	52,842
2	Domestic	2,018	1,777	1,033	1,829	1,853	1,124	887	693	4,364	611	66,306
3	Probate	317	169	246	542	93	209	270	24	1,230	156	12,888
4	Felonies	1,124	937	518	707	845	330	441	608	9,531	412	35,134
5	Misdemeanors	564	289	46	142	234	27	156	83	3,683	107	13,244
6	Criminal Other	193	99	94	45	86	2	67	17	1,720	2	7,539
7	Total Filings	5,408	3,972	2,948	4,524	4,635	2,430	2,479	1,875	27,387	1,663	187,953
8	Workload											
		338,000	242,499	203,108	297,628	306,936	159,569	162,092	123,225	1,845,007	107,518	
9	Rural Adjustment (+)	50,700	36,375	30,466	44,644		23,935	24,314	18,484		16,128	
10	Adjusted Workload	388,700	278,874	233,574	342,272	306,936	183,504	186,406	141,709	1,845,007	123,646	
	Judge Year											
11			104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160
12	Travel Adjustment (-)**	6,225	9,154	9,154	9,154	6,225	6,225	6,225	6,225	280	6225	
13	Non-Casework Adjustment (-)	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	
14	Adjusted Judge Year	84,692	81,763	81,763	81,763	84,692	84,692	84,692	84,692	90,637	84,692	
15	# Judges	4	3	3	4	4	2	2	2	24	1	151.00
16	Judicial Resources Needed	4.59	3.41	2.86	4.19	3.62	2.17	2.20	1.67	20.36	1.46	149.78
17	FTE Deficit or Excess	-0.59	-0.41	0.14	-0.19	0.38	-0.17	-0.20	0.33	3.64	-0.46	1.22
	Child Support Referee Category***	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
20		R	R	R	R	T	R	R	R	U	R	
21	Civil Resources Needed	3.06	2.23	2.22	3.35	2.74	1.83	1.64	10.14	10.14	1.00	117.04
22	Criminal Resources Needed	1.53	1.19	0.63	0.83	0.88	0.34	0.56	0.57	10.22	0.46	41.78

**	Travel adjusted based on High (9,154) Medium (6225), and Low (280) average travel time.
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*** U = Urban (established economic center), T = Transitional (significant population gains and/or regional economic center), R = Rural.

Appendix F

FY 2002-2003 Updated Tennessee Weighted Caseload Model*

			District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Row	Casetype	Case Weight	Case Filings per District									
1	Civil	92	1,343	1,142	1,503	1,621	727	4,809	900	1,050	845	1,426
2	Domestic	46	2,504	2,353	3,163	2,713	811	5,976	1,121	847	844	3,181
3	Probate	71	227	714	535	219	25	1,426	308	387	62	263
4	Felonies	73	1,629	749	530	883	373	1,739	170	744	254	1,384
5	Misdemeanor	34	384	188	114	194	163	674	153	334	151	379
6	Criminal Other	61	306	438	40	336	16	125	61	32	30	232
7	Total Filings		6,393	5,584	5,885	5,966	2,115	14,749	2,713	3,394	2,186	6,865
8	Workload		405,496	351,783	366,765	381,030	139,712	976,058	177,567	230,659	146,472	424,261
9	Rural Adjustment (+)				55,015	57,155	20,957		26,635	34,599	21,971	63,639
10	Adjusted Workload		405,496	351,783	421,780	438,185	160,669	976,058	204,202	265,258	168,443	487,900
11	Judge Year		104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160
12	Travel Adjustment (-)**		6,225	6,225	6,225	6,225	280	280	280	9,154	6,225	6,225
13	Non-Casework Adj. (-)		13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243
14	Adjusted Judge Yr.		84,692	84,692	84,692	84,692	90,637	90,637	90,637	81,763	84,692	84,692
15	Total # of Judges		5	4	5	4.9	2.1	10	2	3	3	5
16	Judicial Res. Needed		4.79	4.15	4.98	5.17	1.77	10.77	2.25	3.24	1.99	5.76
17	FTE Deficit or Excess		0.21	-0.15	0.02	-0.27	0.33	-0.77	-0.25	-0.24	1.01	-0.76
18	Child Support Referee		No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
19	Clerk and Master Available**		?	Yes	?	no	no	Yes	?	?	?	?
20	Category***		T	T	R	R	R	U	R	R	R	R
21	Civil Resources Needed		3.01	3.12	4.37	3.93	1.34	9.03	1.98	2.29	1.64	4.02
22	Criminal Resources Needed		1.78	1.04	0.61	1.24	0.43	1.74	0.27	0.95	0.35	1.74
*	Updated with 2001/2002 Judicial Resources, with 2001/2002 Filings, and 2001 Revised Case Weights. The quantitative weighted caseload model provides a foundation for assessing judicial needs.											
**	Travel adjusted based on High (9,154) Medium (6225), and Low (280) average travel time.											
***	U = Urban (established economic center), T = Transitional (significant population gains and/or regional economic center), R = Rural.											

FY 2002-2003 Updated Tennessee Weighted Caseload Model*

		District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Casetype	Case Filings per District										
1	Civil	3,994	1,151	1,567	540	1,196	1,783	838	1,569	1,372	8,062	1,000
2	Domestic	3,391	2,629	1,130	796	1,665	3,008	2,099	1,967	2,267	4,829	2,000
3	Probate	1,010	230	198	164	171	45	305	465	428	2,041	1,000
4	Felonies	2,164	1,107	924	424	975	1,321	500	772	892	4,605	1,000
5	Misdemeanors	1,644	653	1,007	137	711	644	37	225	335	879	1,000
6	Criminal Other	214	43	95	4	16	38	162	71	62	4,828	1,000
7	Total Filings	12,417	5,813	4,921	2,065	4,734	6,839	3,941	5,069	5,356	25,244	5,000
8	Workload											
9	Rural Adjustment (+)	822,066	348,792	317,687	133,794	295,088	426,246	242,945	336,182	341,182	1,769,308	321,000
			52,319	47,653	20,069	44,263		36,442				
10	Adjusted Workload	822,066	401,111	365,340	153,863	339,351	426,246	279,387	336,182	341,182	1,769,308	321,000
11	Judge Year											
12	Travel Adjustment (-)**	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160
13	Non-Case Work Adjustment (-)	280	9,154	9,154	280	9,154	6,225	6,225	280	6,225	280	6,225
		13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243
14	Adjusted Judge Year	90,637	81,763	81,763	90,637	81,763	84,692	84,692	90,637	84,692	90,637	84,692
15	# Judges	9	4	5	2	4	5	3	3	4	15	15
16	Judicial Resources Needed	9.07	4.91	4.47	1.70	4.15	5.03	3.30	3.71	4.03	19.52	3.00
17	FTE Deficit or Excess	-0.07	-0.91	0.53	0.30	-0.15	-0.03	-0.30	-0.71	-0.03	-4.52	0.00
18	Child Support Referee											
19	Clerk and Master Available	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
20	Category***	No	?	Yes	?	?	Yes	?	No	No	Yes	?
21	Civil Resources Needed	U	R	R	R	R	T	R	T	T	U	T
22	Criminal Resources Needed	6.57	3.42	2.96	1.24	2.80	3.61	2.65	2.96	3.08	12.23	2.00
		2.50	1.49	1.51	0.45	1.35	1.42	0.65	0.75	0.95	7.29	0.00

*	Updated with 2001/2002 Judicial Resources, with 2001/2002 Filings, and 2001 Revised Case Weights. The quantitative weighted caseload model provides a foundation for assessing judicial needs.
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**	Travel adjusted based on High (9,154) Medium (6225), and Low (280) average travel time.
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*** U = Urban (established economic center), T = Transitional (significant population gains and/or regional economic center), R = Rural.

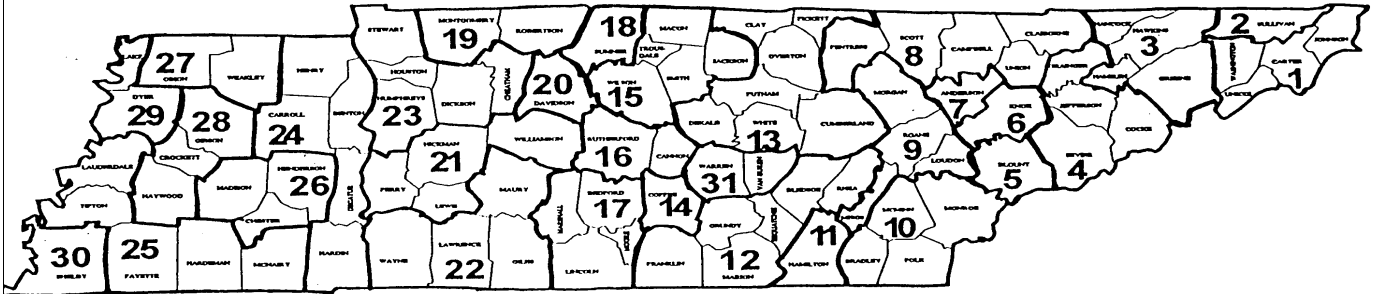
Appendix F												
FY 2002-2003 Updated Tennessee Weighted Caseload Model*												
		District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	District	Totals
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Casetype	Case Filings per District										
1	Civil	1,280	734	955	1,206	1,582	833	712	470	7,418	337	54,240
2	Domestic	2,189	1,841	987	1,816	1,840	1,121	837	805	4,375	574	65,769
3	Probate	320	167	245	516	87	207	302	24	1,208	161	12,869
4	Felonies	1,136	807	486	683	804	340	476	499	7,857	307	36,310
5	Misdemeanors	768	279	74	129	251	35	153	76	3,487	142	14,727
6	Criminal Other	195	196	63	57	43	4	85	13	1,643	4	9,642
7	Total Filings	5,888	4,024	2,810	4,407	4,607	2,540	2,565	1,887	25,988	1,525	193,557
8	Workload											
9	Rural Adjustment (+)	362,109	244,424	192,494	288,846	306,210	169,153	170,583	121,778	1,761,816	96,322	
10	Adjusted Workload	54,316	36,664	28,874	43,327		25,373	25,587	18,267		14,448	
		416,425	281,088	221,368	332,173	306,210	194,526	196,170	140,045	1,761,816	110,770	
11	Judge Year											
12	Travel Adjustment (-)**	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	104,160	
13	Non-Casework Adjustment (-)	6,225	9,154	9,154	9,154	6,225	6,225	6,225	6,225	280	6,225	
14	Adjusted Judge Year	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	13,243	
		84,692	81,763	81,763	81,763	84,692	84,692	84,692	84,692	90,637	84,692	
15	# Judges											
16	Judicial Resources Needed	4	3	3	4	4	2	2	2	24	1	151.00
17	FTE Deficit or Excess	4.92	3.44	2.71	4.06	3.62	2.30	2.32	1.65	19.44	1.31	154.32
		-0.92	-0.44	0.29	-0.06	0.38	-0.30	-0.32	0.35	4.56	-0.31	-3.32
18	Child Support Referee											
19	Clerk and Master Available	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
20	Category***	No	?	Yes	No	No	?	?	No	No	?	
21	Civil Resources Needed	R	R	R	R	T	R	R	R	U	R	
22	Criminal Resources Needed	3.27	2.31	2.12	3.25	2.79	1.94	1.70	1.11	10.70	0.93	109.25
		1.64	1.13	0.59	0.81	0.82	0.36	0.61	0.47	8.74	0.37	45.00
*	Updated with 2001/2002 Judicial Resources, with 2001/2002 Filings, and 2001 Revised Case Weights. The quantitative weighted caseload model provides a foundation for assessing judicial needs.											
**	Travel adjusted based on High (9,154) Medium (6225), and Low (280) average travel time.											
***	U = Urban (established economic center), T = Transitional (significant population gains and/or regional economic center), R = Rural.											

Appendix G: Number of Felony Filings Ranked in Descending Order Between FY 2000-2003												
District					2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2000-2003	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
20	3,810	4,075	4,061	4,605	265	6.96%	-14	-0.34%	544	13.40%	795	20.87%
11	1,524	1,573	1,604	2,164	49	3.22%	31	1.97%	560	34.91%	640	41.99%
10	754	832	928	1,384	78	10.34%	96	11.54%	456	49.14%	630	83.55%
1	1,057	1,020	1,293	1,629	-37	-3.50%	273	26.76%	336	25.99%	572	54.12%
6	1,199	1,285	1,281	1,739	86	7.17%	-4	-0.31%	458	35.75%	540	45.04%
15	695	694	846	975	-1	-0.14%	152	21.90%	129	15.25%	280	40.29%
22	865	943	1,124	1,136	78	9.02%	181	19.19%	12	1.07%	271	31.33%
16	1,102	1,014	1,260	1,321	-88	-7.99%	246	24.26%	61	4.84%	219	19.87%
4	670	693	681	883	23	3.43%	-12	-1.73%	202	29.66%	213	31.79%
21	588	640	648	776	52	8.84%	8	1.25%	128	19.75%	188	31.97%
17	325	334	385	500	9	2.77%	51	15.27%	115	29.87%	175	53.85%
14	259	259	378	424	0	0.00%	119	45.95%	46	12.17%	165	63.71%
23	666	654	937	807	-12	-1.80%	283	43.27%	-130	-13.87%	141	21.17%
5	246	175	257	373	-71	-28.86%	82	46.86%	116	45.14%	127	51.63%
28	380	448	441	476	68	17.89%	-7	-1.56%	35	7.94%	96	25.26%
31	216	265	412	307	49	22.69%	147	55.47%	-105	-25.49%	91	42.13%
24	396	419	518	486	23	5.81%	99	23.63%	-32	-6.18%	90	22.73%
13	849	867	979	924	18	2.12%	112	12.92%	-55	-5.62%	75	8.83%
8	669	636	651	744	-33	-4.93%	15	2.36%	93	14.29%	75	11.21%
3	455	444	537	530	-11	-2.42%	93	20.95%	-7	-1.30%	75	16.48%
2	684	661	782	749	-23	-3.36%	121	18.31%	-33	-4.22%	65	9.50%
29	440	460	608	499	20	4.55%	148	32.17%	-109	-17.93%	59	13.41%
18	714	774	746	772	60	8.40%	-28	-3.62%	26	3.49%	58	8.12%
19	847	972	846	892	125	14.76%	-126	-12.96%	46	5.44%	45	5.31%
12	1,078	967	1,076	1,107	-111	-10.30%	109	11.27%	31	2.88%	29	2.69%
27	322	326	330	340	4	1.24%	4	1.23%	10	3.03%	18	5.59%
25	682	566	707	683	-116	-17.01%	141	24.91%	-24	-3.39%	1	0.15%
9	256	300	301	254	44	17.19%	1	0.33%	-47	-15.61%	-2	-0.78%
7	186	185	141	170	-1	-0.54%	-44	-23.78%	29	20.57%	-16	-8.60%
26	937	909	845	804	-28	-2.99%	-64	-7.04%	-41	-4.85%	-133	-14.19%
30	9,440	8,853	9,531	7,857	-587	-6.22%	678	7.66%	-1,674	-17.56%	-1,583	-16.77%

Source: Data calculated and ranked by Office of Research staff from filing data provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Appendix H

TENNESSEE JUDICIAL DISTRICTS



- District 1 - Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington Counties
- District 2 - Sullivan County
- District 3 - Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins Counties
- District 4 - Coke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier Counties
- District 5 - Blount County
- District 6 - Knox County
- District 7 - Anderson County
- District 8 - Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union Counties
- District 9 - Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane Counties
- District 10 - Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk Counties
- District 11 - Hamilton County
- District 12 - Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie Counties
- District 13 - Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and White Counties
- District 14 - Coffee County
- District 15 - Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson Counties
- District 16 - Cannon and Rutherford Counties
- District 17 - Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore Counties
- District 18 - Sumner County
- District 19 - Montgomery and Robertson Counties
- District 20 - Davidson County
- District 21 - Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson Counties
- District 22 - Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne Counties
- District 23 - Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart Counties
- District 24 - Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin and Henry Counties
- District 25 - Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton Counties
- District 26 - Chester, Henderson, and Madison Counties
- District 27 - Obion and Weakley Counties
- District 28 - Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood Counties
- District 29 - Dyer and Lake Counties
- District 30 - Shelby County
- District 31 - Van Buren and Warren Counties

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